WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

- 1. An antiseptic composition comprising:
- an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%;
 - a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; water; and
- a substantive film-forming polymer.
 - 2. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein a dry film of the composition is substantive.
- 15 3. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of no greater than about 1.0 wt-%.
- 4. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer is present in an amount of no greater than about 15 wt-%.
 - 5. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the composition has a Brookfield viscosity of no greater than about 1000 cps.
- 25 6. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the weight ratio of the film-forming polymer to hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer is at least about 0.25:1.
 - 7. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the composition reduces normal skin flora by at least about 1 log in 2 minutes on a dry human skin site using ASTM testing method E1173-93 and a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure.
 - 8. The antiseptic composition of claim 7 wherein the composition reduces normal skin flora by at least about 1.5 log in 2 minutes on a dry human skin site

using ASTM testing method E1173-93 and a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure.

9. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the composition reduces normal skin flora by at least about 0.5 log more than the same composition without the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer present when tested on a dry human skin site using ASTM testing method E1173-93 measured 2 minutes after completion of a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure.

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- 10. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the antimicrobial agent is an iodophor comprising a carrier selected from the group consisting of a polyvinylpyrrolidone, a copolymer of N-vinyl lactam, a polyether glycol, a polyvinyl alcohol, a polycarboxylic acid, a polyacrylamide, a polysaccharide,
- 15 and combinations thereof.
 - 11. The antiseptic composition of claim 10 wherein the iodophor is povidone-iodine.
- 20 12. The antiseptic composition of claim 11 wherein the iodophor is povidone-iodine USP.
 - 13. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer comprises a compound represented by the formula:

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$R^{1}(CR^{2}OH)_{n}(CH_{2})_{m}COOH$

wherein:

R¹ and R² are each independently H or a (C1-C8) saturated straight,

30 branched, or cyclic alkyl group, a (C6-C12)aryl group, or a (C6-C12)aralkyl or
alkaryl group wherein the alkyl groups are saturated straight, branched, or cyclic,
wherein R¹ and R² may be optionally substituted with one or more carboxylic
acid groups;

m = 0 or 1; and

n = 1-3.

- 14. The antiseptic composition of claim 13 wherein n = 1-2.
- The antiseptic composition of claim 14 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer comprises lactic acid, malic acid, citric acid, 2-hydroxybutanoic acid, 3-hydroxybutanoic acid, mandelic acid, gluconic acid, tartaric acid, salicylic acid, lactones thereof, salts thereof, derivatives thereof, or combinations thereof.
- 10 16. The antiseptic composition of claim 15 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer comprises lactic acid, malic acid, citric acid, or combinations thereof.
 - 17. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 further comprising a (C1-C4)alcohol.

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- 18. The antiseptic composition of claim 17 wherein the alcohol to water ratio is preferably at least about 60:40 by weight.
- 19. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 which is substantially free of volatile organic solvents.
 - 20. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the composition has a closed-cup flash point of greater than about 60°C using ASTM testing method D3278-96.

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- 21. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the film-forming polymer is prepared from at least about 50 wt-% of one or more hydrophobic monomers, based on the total weight of polymer.
- 30 22. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the film-forming polymer includes side-chain functional amine groups.

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- 23. The antiseptic composition of claim 22 wherein the side-chain functional amine groups include protonated tertiary amines, quaternary amines, amine oxides, or combinations thereof.
- 5 24. The antiseptic composition of claim 23 wherein the film-forming polymer is prepared from at least about 15 wt-% of an amine group-containing monomer.
- 25. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the film-forming polymer is present in an amount of at least about 2 wt-%, based on the total weight of the antiseptic composition.
 - 26. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein a dry film of the composition is substantially nontacky.

27. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the ratio of hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer to antimicrobial agent is at least about 4.0 grams hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer per gram available iodine.

- 20 28. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the composition demonstrates a Draize score of zero in no greater than about 96 hours when tested according to the Rabbit Eye Irritation Test.
 - 29. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 further comprising a surfactant.
 - 30. The antiseptic composition of claim 29 wherein the surfactant is nonionic, anionic, or amphoteric.
- 31. The antiseptic composition of claim 30 wherein the surfactant is a nonionic surfactant with an HLB value of at least about 14.
 - 32. The antiseptic composition of claim 31 wherein the surfactant is a nonionic surfactant with an HLB value of no greater than about 19.

- 33. The antiseptic composition of claim 32 further comprising an anionic or amphoteric surfactant.
- 34. The antiseptic composition of claim 35 wherein the anionic or amphoteric surfactant is selected from the group consisting of sulfonates, sulfates, phosphates, phosphonates, and ammonium sulfonate amphoterics, and mixtures thereof.
- 35. The antiseptic composition of claim 34 wherein the anionic surfactant comprises a polyalkoxylate group.
 - 36. The antiseptic composition of claim 30 wherein the surfactant is an amine oxide.
- The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein a dry film of the composition adheres to a PSA-coated tape at a level of at least about 50% of the level of adhesion of the PSA-coated tape applied over dried BETADINE surgical scrub and paint solutions when measured using a 180 degree peel test after applying the PSA-coated tape to a dry film on dry human skin by rolling with a 2.1-kg, 5.1-cm wide roller, waiting at least 1 minute, and removing the PSA-coated tape at a peel angle of 180 degrees at a speed of 30.5 cm/minute.
 - 38. The antiseptic composition of claim 1 wherein the composition is stable.
- 25 39. An antiseptic composition comprising:

 an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an
 iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present

in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least

about 0.25 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; water; and

a film-forming polymer comprising hydrophilic and hydrophobic moieties.

40. An antiseptic composition comprising:

an iodophor in an amount of greater than 5 wt-%, wherein the iodophor comprises a carrier selected from the group consisting of a polyvinylpyrrolidone, a copolymer of N-vinyl lactam, a polyether glycol, a polyvinyl alcohol, a

5 polyacrylamide, a polysaccharide, and combinations thereof;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; and

water.

10 41. An antiseptic composition comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I_2 , an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; water; and a substantive film-forming polymer; wherein a dry film of the composition is stable and substantive.

20 42. An antiseptic composition comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I_2 , an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; water; and

a substantive film-forming polymer;

wherein a dry film of the composition is stable and substantive and demonstrates one or more of the following characteristics:

reduces normal skin flora by at least about 1 log in 2 minutes on a dry human skin site using ASTM testing method E1173-93 and a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure;

is substantially nontacky when in the form of a dry film;

demonstrates a Draize score of zero in no greater than about 96 hours according to the Rabbit Eye Irritation Test; or

adheres to a PSA-coated tape at a level of at least about 50% of the level of adhesion of the PSA-coated tape applied over dried BETADINE surgical scrub and paint solutions when measured using a 180 degree peel test after applying the PSA-coated tape to a dry film on dry human skin by rolling with a 2.1-kg, 5.1-cm wide roller, waiting at least 1 minute, and removing the PSA-coated tape at a peel angle of 180 degrees at a speed of 30.5 cm/minute.

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43. An antiseptic composition comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I_2 , an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-% to about 1.0 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of about 5 wt-% to about 15 wt-%;

water; and

a substantive film-forming polymer;

wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer comprises a compound represented by the formula:

$R^{1}(CR^{2}OH)_{n}(CH_{2})_{m}COOH$

wherein:

R¹ and R² are each independently H or a (C1-C8) saturated straight, branched, or cyclic alkyl group, a (C6-C12)aryl group, or a (C6-C12)aralkyl or alkaryl group wherein the alkyl groups are saturated straight, branched, or cyclic, wherein R¹ and R² may be optionally substituted with one or more carboxylic acid groups:

m = 0 or 1; and

n = 1-3.

44. A method of disinfecting tissue comprising:

applying directly to tissue an antiseptic composition comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; and

water; and

- allowing the antiseptic composition to remain on the tissue.
 - 45. The method of claim 44 wherein the antiseptic composition further includes a film-forming polymer.
- 15 46. The method of claim 45 wherein the film-forming polymer is substantive.
 - 47. A method of disinfecting tissue comprising: applying directly to tissue an antiseptic composition comprising:

an iodophor in an amount of greater than 5 wt-%, wherein the iodophor comprises a carrier selected from the group consisting of a polyvinylpyrrolidone, a copolymer of N-vinyl lactam, a polyether glycol, a polyvinyl alcohol, a polyacrylamide, a polysaccharide, and combinations thereof;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; and

water; and

allowing the antiseptic composition to remain on the tissue.

30 48. A method of disinfecting tissue comprising:

applying directly to tissue an antiseptic composition comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is

present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%; a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; 5 water; and a substantive film-forming polymer; wherein a dry film of the composition is stable and substantive; and allowing the antiseptic composition to remain on the tissue. 10 49. A method of disinfecting tissue comprising: applying directly to tissue an antiseptic composition comprising: an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is 15 present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%; a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; water; and 20 a film-forming polymer comprising hydrophilic and hydrophobic moieties; and allowing the antiseptic composition to remain on the tissue. 50. A method of disinfecting tissue comprising: 25 applying directly to tissue an antiseptic composition comprising: an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%; 30 a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; water; and

a substantive film-forming polymer;

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wherein a dry film of the composition is stable and substantive and demonstrates one or more of the following characteristics:

reduces normal skin flora by at least about 1 log in 2 minutes on a dry human skin site using ASTM testing method E1173-93 and a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure;

is substantially nontacky when in the form of a dry film; demonstrates a Draize score of zero in no greater than about 96 hours according to the Rabbit Eye Irritation Test; or

adheres to a PSA-coated tape at a level of at least about 50% of the level of adhesion of the PSA-coated tape applied over dried BETADINE surgical scrub and paint solutions when measured using a 180 degree peel test after applying the PSA-coated tape to a dry film on dry human skin by rolling with a 2.1-kg, 5.1-cm wide roller, waiting at least 1 minute, and removing the PSA-coated tape at a peel angle of 180 degrees at a speed of 30.5 cm/minute; and

allowing the antiseptic composition to remain on the tissue.

20 51. A method of disinfecting tissue comprising:

applying directly to tissue an antiseptic composition comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-% to about 1.0 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of about 5 wt-% to about 25 wt-%;

water; and

a substantive film-forming polymer;

wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer comprises a compound represented by the formula:

R¹(CR²OH)_n(CH₂)_mCOOH

wherein:

R¹ and R² are each independently H or a (C1-C8) saturated straight, branched, or cyclic alkyl group, a (C6-C12)aryl group, or a (C6-C12)aralkyl or alkaryl group wherein the alkyl groups are saturated straight, branched, or cyclic, wherein R¹ may be optionally substituted with one or more carboxylic acid groups;

m = 0 or 1; and

n = 1-3; and

allowing the antiseptic composition to remain on the tissue.

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52. A method of making an antiseptic composition, the method comprising combining components comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I_2 , an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about 5 wt-%; water; and

a substantive film-forming polymer.

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53. The method of claim 52 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer and antimicrobial agent are combined and then the substantive film-forming polymer is added.

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